

REMARKS

Claims 1-57 are pending. Claims 1, 21 and 40 are amended for clarity only. Dependent claims 58-60 are added as new. No range of equivalents is intended to be surrendered by this Amendment. No new matter is added.

Applicant thanks the Examiners for the courtesies extended to the Applicant's representatives during the personal interview of May 3, 2006. During the interview, the Applicant's representative explained the distinctions between the prior art and Applicant's invention. The Examiners agreed that the claimed invention was distinct from the art of record. The Examiners and Applicant's representatives then discussed some additional situations and compared them to the claims. The Examiners indicated that the above clarifications would avoid such situations and requested Applicant enter these clarifications.

The claims as amended are not anticipated nor rendered obvious by the art of record. Applicant requests withdrawal of all rejections and issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully assert that the application is in condition for allowance. Prompt examination and allowance of claims 1-60 is respectfully requested. Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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